JOSHUA JOURNAL

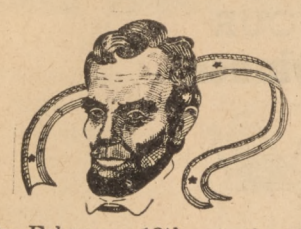
GATEWAY TO THE JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Published Weekly in the Interest of the Most Livable and Fastest Growing Area of the Great American Desert

VOL. 2, No. 6 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1946 JOSHUA TREE, CALIFORNIA 5c PER COPY

Rapid Growth in Business District

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY



On February 12th, one hundred and thirty-seven years ago next Tuesday, in the backwoods town of Hodgenville, Kentucky, a child was born who was destined to become one of the most outstanding characters in American history. His life is well worth studying and his character worthy of emulation.

His entire life seemed closely bound to the down trodden and the suffering and it is most fitting that we should honor his memory by making the anniversary of his birth a holiday.

He was the 16th President of the United States. One month and 11 days after he was elected for a second term, his life was cut short by an assassin's bullet, fired from the stage of the Ford Theatre in Washington, D. C., where he was attending a performance. He was carried across the street into a house which is now the Lincoln Memorial and where he died early the next morning, April 15, 1865.

Roads Being Graded

The Road Department of San Bernardino County is repairing both entrances to the Joshua Tree National Monument. The roads are being widened, regraded and surfaced in keeping with the fine work done by the Park Department. The Townsite Company will, however, oil the portion of the road wihin its limits.

At present there are 6 miles of grading being carried on by the Joshua Tree Townsite Company, all of which will be oiled this summer. To date there are 14 miles of streets in the townsite.

WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

Don't forget that the Joshua Tree Women's Club meets the third Friday of the month. This time it falls on February 15—2:30 p.m. clubhouse.

The Joshua Tree

The Joshua Tree, after which our town was named, is an herbaceous tree-like plant belonging to the lily family. It is one of the Yuccas which are natives of North America, as well as the West Indies. The botanical name is Yucca Brevifolia. It sometimes attains a height of 30 feet and is of very grotesque formation. Some have been known to grow even higher.

The Spanish Bayonet (Yucca Aloifolia) which grows to about 25 feet, the Spanish Dagger (Yucca glosiosa) to around 8 feet, and the Yucca Arborescens known as "Candle of the Lord" or "The Great Yucca of California," are members of the same family as the Joshua Tree. The last named is one of the most glorious sights imaginable when in bloom. In fact, all the members of the Yucca family, with their many white flowers suffused with violet, are a sight beyond description. They have to be seen to be appreciated.

Carl (Zeke) Coffin has been busy trucking in 40 cords of seasoned cherry poles to be sawed up into firewood and sold. He already has an order for 10 cords to be delivered to the Club House. Cherry makes excellent firewood, so get your order in early.

INCREASE IN POPULATION

Count 5 more on our population tally. Harold C. Bayes, his wife and 3 children moved into town recently and threw up a temporary shelter on their lot facing on El Reposo Circle and are here to stay.

Mr. Bayes bought this property about 2 years ago and has been impatiently biding his time until he could arrange his affairs and move here.

The younger Bayes are Eleanor Ann, 5, Mildred, 8, and Donald, 12. Mildred and Donald have already enrolled in the 29 Palms School.

Mr. Bayes, who is a carpenter and machinist, says he has been working hard and with few vacations for the last 15 years and that now he is going to spend his time building their permanent home and developing their property and take it easy when he feels like it.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Bayes expressed considerable relief at being able to get away from the noise, congestion and polluted atmosphere of the city.

ATTENTION LANDLORDS

Max A. Heinzman, Inspector of the Division of Immigration and Housing was in town this past week and asked us to call the attention of all those who have places for rent in the community to what is meant by Rental Units.

The Health and Safety Code defines this as "Two or more apartments or single family dwellings erected for hire or for lease to transients (weekend), a permit must be secured to construct and operate said buildings, from the Division of Housing of the State of California. Any person who constructs and operates such buildings without first securing a permit as provided by the Health and Safety Code is subject to arrest."

The Division of Housing maintains a branch office in Room 505 State Building, Los Angeles where application blanks and copies of the act may be secured, and plans filed and permits issued. Fred Moninger of the Moninger Draughting Service also has some application blanks.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Pick and Bertie Laughlin have gone to Durant, Oklahoma, to be with Pick's mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Laughlin, on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Laughlin were married in Honey Grove, Texas, Feb. 6, 1896. They have 11 children, 10 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, Little Sharon Ann Smith, of Joshua Tree. Open house will be held for friends of Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin at their home in Durant.

Not so very long ago a stranger coming along the 29 Palms Highway was hardly aware of the town of Joshua Tree. There were very few houses and only 3 places of business; a gas station, which housed the village store, the Joshua Tree Townsite office, and a restaurant.

Today we have 134 buildings either completed or under construction and the business district is mushrooming over night.

Today when you approach our town from the west you are greeted by a sign which welcomes you to Joshua Tree. The first business building is the beautiful storeroom of the Crane Lumber Company, with its 2 warehouses in the rear. It was built by the Lehenbauers (father and son) and is practically ready for occupancy. Next comes the Becker Variety and Hardware Store, which also houses the branch of the San Bernardino Public Library. When we say variety store we mean just that, as it is a marvel how one little store can carry so many different and necessary articles. No wonder it was almost bulging through the roof. It did almost push Tommy and Mabel out of their living quarters; as they had to either go "up or back" they decided on a nice large room in the rear.

The Below building is going up very fast and that will add another eating place here. The deBandrowski building with its graceful and unusual lines is a credit to the designer, Fred Moninger, and the builder, Tom Henning. It has living quarters as well as two store-rooms, one of which will be used by the owners for a "Sweet Shop" and restaurant. The gas station, not to be outdone by its neighbors, has added a coat of paint which dresses it up quite a bit.

The Townsite office is going to have to enlarge or burst! It looks like a convention in town on weekends, so many cars and people crowded around.

The Desert Trading Post, which handles groceries, meats and mail, together with the Desert Steak House, is all painted up and trimmed with gay colors. Next comes the Joshua Tree Electrical Shop and then the building with the offices of the JOSHUA JOURNAL and Fred Moninger Draughting Service. A little farther on the Highway is Rcie's Cafe.

In the Industrial district we have a very busy garage and automotive business operated by Harold Wilson and Bill Herbert and the Lawson, McArthur and Sevege Brick Plant, which supplies most of the bricks for the construction work. In fact, they just completed delivery of several thousand bricks that are now piled up on the northeast corner of Park Boulevard and the 29 Palms Highway, ready for use when construction on the Bunker Block starts. Mr. Haywood has opened a shop and is equipped to do cabinet work, of all kinds.

New Meat Market

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Carrington have sold their business in Monrovia and have opened up a meat market in connection with The Desert Trading Post. Due to the housing shortage they are now living in 29 Palms but expect to make their home in Joshua Tree, as soon as they can get located, in order to be near their business.

The store has installed a large display case and after being without meat for so long it is a rare treat to walk in and get practically any kind without having to either go home with none, or to take whatever kind happened to be available. As soon as electricity is available the Desert Trading Post is planning to install a walk-in refrigerator and extra display cases and Mr. Carrington promises to carry a supply large enough to satisfy the demands of the community.

KINDNESS ALWAYS PAYS

When Mr. G. W. Bisbee was taken lil recently a driver for the ambulance had to be found in a hurry. The ambulance is maintained by contributions and driven by voluntary drivers. Dewey Below is one of those priceless characters who is fitted to trust with a "Message to Garcia." He acted just as that noted messenger did, going without question. He stayed through until Mr. Bisbee was safely in the hands of his physician in Ontario. The doctor said if they had arrived an hour later it would probably have been too late.

When Dewey found that the patient was growing weaker he enlisted the aid of the motor police to escort him through the traffic so that there would be no unnecessary delay. It was his abifity to assume responsibility and his capability in managing the car that probably saved Mr. Bisbee's life. Mrs. Bisbee accompanied her husband and expects to remain until he is well enough to leave the hospital. The doctor thinks it will be a few weeks before he is strong enough to undergo the necessary operation. In the meantime, Mrs. Bisbee has opened her home here in Joshua Tree to Dewey and Bertie who have been living in a furnished room due to the housing shortage. Now, as the result of a kind act, they are happy and comfortably located most likely until such time as their own home is ready. By the way, it's going up in record time.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HOLD MEETING

The Chamber of Commerce will hold its regular meeting at the Club House at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, February 9. There will be a social hour afterwards.

The Board of Directors meeting is called for 7:00 p.m. the same night at the Joshua Tree Townsite office.

JOSHUA TREE TO HAVE VOTING PRECINCT

When election time comes you will be able to cast your ballot right here in Joshua Tree. Miss Mary Burson is Registrar of Voters for the new precinct known as the JOSHUA TREE PRECINCT.

Miss Burson was tireless in her efforts to accomplish this; she collected the necessary data and presented it to the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County. She has been notified that the board passed the recommendation and she urges all who have not already registered to stop in the Townsite office and do so.

Miss Burson stated that there are 152 already registered and there will be many more before election date.

SUN VALLEY OPENING

Lafferty Bros. expect to finish the grading of streets and roads in Sun Valley this week in time for the grand opening of this new development, which, according to Chester R. Bunker, President of the Bunker Land Company, is scheduled for Saturday, February 16.

Who's Guesting

Lockhaven Courts— Mr. and Mrs. H. Victor Law for another week; Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Voska of Los Angeles last weekend; Mr. James R. Smith, Santa Ana, for indefinite period.

Desertaire Ldoge—Mrs. Ethel Cullington and daughter, Barbara for past week; Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Kliewer of Glendale for weekend; Mr. and Mrs. Tubbs, two days; Mr. C. F. Howard of Los Angeles for a few weeks; Mrs. R. F. Beck, Redonda Beach, for several weeks.

Rock Haven— Molly Malone and party consisting of husband, George Greaves, Lowell C. N. Fynskov and Miss Beatrice E. Smith; Doyle Bowen, Audrey Clarke and Mr. Lewis, the three regulars who come every Friday and stay until Sunday night.

Distinguished Guest

Donald Ayres, President of the Joshua Tree Land Company, and Mrs. Ayres were here last Tuesday as guests of Chester R. Bunker, President of the Joshua Tree Townsite Company.

Joshua Tree Land Company are extensive owners of desert lands. Mr. Ayres has not visited here for several months and was much surprised and pleased with the growth of the town.

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PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY
By the
JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY
JOSHUA TREE - CALIFORNIA

ALICE POWELL BECKFORD — Editor and Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
1 Year $2.00 — 2 Years $3.00

Joshua Journal Changes Management

On Monday, February 4th, the JOSHUA JOURNAL started out under a new management. If you miss your favorite columnist or article we ask your indulgence for a short time; at least, until we get properly re-organized and know how best to serve your needs.

JOSHUA TREE is YOUR town. THE JOSHUA JOURNAL is YOUR paper.

We ask for your criticisms and we welcomed your news. Nothing succeeds without cooperation. When you are ill it is because the cells of your body fail to cooperate properly. A town—a city—a country fails when its inhabitants cease to cooperate for the good of all.

Joshua Tree has been called, "The fastest growing community in the Desert." That same title could well apply to the JOSHUA JOURNAL, which has increased its subscription list by leaps and bounds and has subscribers in many places throughout the entire United States.

A superficial survey has shown that the readers are interested primarily in what is going on in Joshua Tree and the surrounding towns of 29 Palms, Yucca Valley and Morongo, rather than in world events, which come to them by way of the papers published in the larger cities or over the radio.

We know it is impossible to "please all of you all of the time." We want to "please all of you some of the time"; we hope to "please some of you all of the time." Won't you, as subscribers, help to make this possible by dropping a card to the editor, saying what you expect from your paper and also sending in contributions about your activities and guests. Articles pertinent to the desert will be welcomed, but these must be "original," not copied from other articles. Copy to be returned to the author must be accompanied by a self addressed stamped envelope, or called for in person.

We hope for your cooperation.

BREEZING AROUND

By MAUDE A. FOX

We asked Mr. Lowther about the many pieces of home-made pottery in his front yard, and learned this was a hobby of many years standing. Mr. Lowther uses color pigment in his mixtures of sand and cement, thus getting some very beautiful effects. He makes pots, vases and flagstones—any color desired. His tendency runs toward Oriental designs One of the most interesting pieces of his art is a Chinese Buddha, which is hand chiseled from a solid block of cement. However, there is a deep secret behind the perfection of his carving; one must know just the right mixture and just when it is right to chisel; otherwise, the result may be a crumpled Buddha.

For many years Mr. Lowther was a chemist, being employed with Dupont and other large business organizations. At one time he owned and operated one of the largest cleaning and dyeing establishments in San Diego. He erected a sign one hundred feet long with the lettering done in bricks. This was erected on a slope of ground in front of the building. As a background he used shavings dyed grass green. The whole effect was of a raised lettering done in white on a beautiful lawn. Even the San Diego Chief of Police asked Jack how he grew the lawn overnight. It was this sign which won him first prize at the National Bill Board convention. Around two million garments were cleaned by his establishment. He has retired from business and come to Joshua Tree where he can ride his hobby to his hearts content; and a man who has a hobby is, indeed, content.

Mrs. Ruth Stern, daughter Bette Anne and sons Bunkey and Bob and Miss Anona Kilforn and Bob Wanamaker of Los Angeles, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Moninger one day last week. With the party was "Spikie," who has done considerable traveling for a young Toy Cocker Spaniel. Spikie's master, Bob Stern was a navigator during the war and just recently returned from Honolulu. Spikie went aboard ship in the coat sleeve of the Navigator, after having been given a sleeping tablet. The little dog liked Joshua Tree and had as much fun as any of the resident dogs, chasing lizards through the greasewood.

Beulah Austin and Florence Huff of El Monte spent the weekend here on the desert visiting with Mr. and Mrs. H. Lafferty.

The O. W. Baurs recently entertained Mr. and Mrs. A. Klima of Los Angeles in their home.

Miss Margarete Weishauer and two brothers and sister of Sacramento were in Joshua Tree Tuesday looking over their property. They were luncheon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kassel.

Last week Mr. and Mrs. Bud Lyday entertained Mr. and Mrs. Harold Harris, of Los Angeles. The Harrises were out here last spring and were amazed at the changes since that time.

The Joshua Tree Woman's club held its regular board meeting Friday at the clubhouse with a quorum present. Many pleasant things were planned for the future.

At this time we have no report on the condition of health of Mrs. Willis Harper, Mrs. Frank Cook nor Mr. G. W. Bisbee. We feel that no news is good news and hope that next time we can bring you word that they are all convalescing and will be back in Joshua Tree before long.

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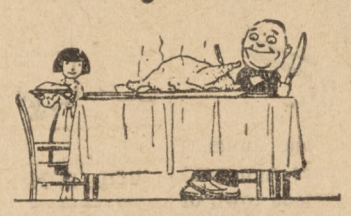

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Yucca Valley News

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Benton of Zephyr Lodge were their daughter and husband, the Fred Thompsons and Fred's brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Thompson.

CABAZON GUESTS VISIT JOSHUA TREE

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Bonner of Hollywood, guests for a week of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hutchens, owners of Big Limit Cafe at Cabazon, made their first trip thru our desert the other day, enroute to look over their 29 Palms holdings. The Bonners were "simply delighted", and much surprised at the bustling community of Joshua Tree, and predict a continued development for the town, so beautifully sitiuated and with such pure water.

Yucca Valley Inn
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TWENTYNINE PALMS

Flying News From 'K' Field

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Roberts from Alhambra are harboring their Taylorcraft at our field this week. They were out looking over the fishing possibilities in the Colorado River between Needles and Blythe. Their return trip was interrupted by high winds and bad weather on the coast. They went back to the city by car and expect to return here next week for their ship.

News from Paul Tuntland states that he has been very busy demonstrating the new Bumble Bee powered glider at the national air show in Cleveland. Over 205,000 people saw the ship at the air show. They are also demonstrating the ship at Dallas, Texas. Paul has been spreading the word on the California Soaring School we plan to have. He believes we should also start laying plans for a national glider meet here. Possibly the 1947 contest.

The local pilots flying this week are John L. Haggie and Paul Renner who are just about ready to solo; also Jack Cones is working hard on practice flights getting ready for that private pilots license. The requirements for a private pilot's license are ten hours of dual instruction and thirty hours of solo flying.

JOSHUA TREE CHURCH NOTICE

Services at 4:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Rev. Fagley's subject for February 10 is, "What Christ Means to Me."

Sunday school class for the children at the Clubhouse at the same hour with Mrs. Milo Crane, Sr., as teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ambach from Torrance and their son, Paul Dutton, and his wife spent 3 days on their homestead near here last weekend. Mrs. Ambach homesteaded her property, which is near Black Rock canyon, in 1915, and she and her husband intend to retire and live on the desert in a few years.

Patronize our Advertisers

BETSY BOOSTER

Betsy Booster says she has a recipe for cup cakes which Juanita Wagner, (you know, Joe's wife), gave her and which she would like to pass on to you. Betsy intends to use it when she entertains her sewing club on St. Valentine's Day.

She was at her wit's end to know what to serve on account of no shortening nor butter, but Juanita solved the problem for her. These little cakes can be made with all peanut butter, if no shortening is available. It can be purchased from Grace Aldridge at the Desert Trading Post. Better get the oily variet. Here's the recipe:

1/3 cup peanut butter, 1/4 cup shortening, 3/4 cup sugar, beaten in gradually, 1 egg, 1/4 cup milk, 1½ cups flour, 2 rounding tsp. baking powder. 375 degrees oven.

Joshua Tree Townsite

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